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At a meeting of Party economic activists of the Moscow Basin held on 7 February 1950 in Stalinogorsk, A. D. Lebedkov stated that the mines of the Moscow Basin had fulfilled the Five-Year Plan in 3 years, adding that they stepped up coal production during 1949 and delivered 765,000 tons of coal above plan. Ten mine faces above plan were put into operation and much new machinery was put into use (6), from which Stalinogorsk Mines No 22 and 26 received 10-ton Yu-10 electric locomotives. (7)

An antimechanization attitude is also reported from the Karaganda Coal Basin. A Pravda article of 29 June 1949 criticized the basin for this reason; however, the situation has not improved after 6 months. In November 1949, there were 22 combines in operation, while now there are only 12, many of which are idle most of the time. (8) In many mines of the "Leninugol" Trust, headed by Serikov, labor is still carried out manually. (9) On the other hand, miners of Mine No 44/45 have completed the quarter plan and their March quota. (10)

At a plenum of the TsK KP(b) Kirgizia, held 19 - 21 January, the "Kirgizugol" Trust was criticized because of its poor organization of work and improper utilization of equipment and mining devices (11), especially since the amount of machinery in the coal mines has almost doubled. Labor productivity, although higher than for 1948, amounted to only 95 percent of the plan. Scarcely 15 percent of all coal mined is obtained by means of cutting machines. (12) Only the Kok-Yangak Mine is operating above the level of planned capacity. (11)

On the other hand, the mines of Krasnoyarsk Kray began 1950 with new production successes. Mines of Mine No 8 of the "Khakassugol" Trust exceeded their daily quota for coal mining 9.1 percent during the first days of January 1950. Mines of the "Kanskugol" Trust pledged to fulfill the Five-Year Plan by 1 March 1950. (13)

Moreover, the rich lignite deposits of the Kazakh SSR are not adequately exploited. For example, the mines of the Kel'temashat lignite deposits located in Tyul'kubasskiy Rayon, South Kazakhstan, are not operating at full capacity. They would be able to produce hundreds of tons more per day than they do. Poor sales account for the fact that mining is not carried out on a larger scale. Thousands of tons are stored in hoppers at the mines and in warehouses of the Alma-Ata base of the "Topzagotsbyt" (Fuel Procurement and Sale) Trust. Kel'temashat lignite is very similar to Lenger coal in composition, structure, and calorific value but has a slightly higher ash and moisture content; its calorific value is 100-200 calories less. (14)

SOURCES

1. Izvestiya, No 26, 31 Jan 50
2. Izvestiya, No 261, 4 Nov 49
3. Moskovskiy Bol'shevik, No 261, 4 Nov 49
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5. Pravda Ukrainy, No 68, 21 Mar 50
6. Moskovskiy Bol'shevik, No 34, 9 Feb 50
7. Moskovskaya Pravda, No 29, 24 Mar 50
8. Pravda, No 27, 27 Jan 50
9. Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 35, 15 Feb 50
10. Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 62, 24 Mar 50
11. Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, No 33, 15 Feb 50
12. Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, No 35, 18 Feb 50
13. Komsomol'skaya Pravda, No 6, 7 Jan 50
14. Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 56, 15 Mar 50

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- 2 -

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